

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A voice messaging system with speakerphone capability, comprising:

a microphone signal;

a speakerphone loudspeaker;

~~a gain module;~~

a hybrid echo canceller;

an automatic gain control module;

a message playback signal relating to a pre-recorded voice message; and

~~a summer in a transmit path;~~

wherein said message playback signal is combined with said microphone signal before to said hybrid echo canceller and after said automatic gain control module for transmission over a telephone line such that said far end user can hear said microphone signal and said message playback signal, while said far end user can simultaneously speak through said speakerphone loudspeaker~~[[,]] allowing full duplex communications.~~

2. (currently amended) The voice messaging system with speakerphone capability according to claim 1, further comprising:

a fixed message gain module to process said message playback signal between said message playback signal and said summer.

3. (previously presented) The voice messaging system with speakerphone capability according to claim 2, wherein said message gain module comprises:

an automatic gain control portion; and

a fixed gain portion.

4. (previously presented) The voice messaging system with speakerphone capability according to claim 1, wherein said gain module comprises:

- a automatic gain control portion; and
- a fixed gain control portion.

5. (previously presented) The voice messaging system with speakerphone capability according to claim 1, further comprising:

a switched loss echo suppression module in said transmit path after said gain module.

6. (previously presented) The voice messaging system with speakerphone capability according to claim 5, wherein:

said message playback signal is combined with said microphone signal at a point in said transmit path after said switched loss echo suppression module.

7. (previously presented) The voice messaging system with speakerphone capability according to claim 6, further comprising:

a digital to analog converter in said transmit path at a point after said switched loss echo suppression module.

8. (previously presented) The voice messaging system with speakerphone capability according to claim 1, further comprising:

a transmit voice activity detector in communication with said transmit path, said transmit voice activity detector indicating a transmit condition of said speakerphone.

9. (previously presented) The voice messaging system with speakerphone capability according to claim 1, wherein:

said voice messaging system is a telephone answering device.

10. (currently amended) A method of transmitting a microphone signal and a played back user pre-recorded voice signal to a far end party over a telephone line using a speakerphone, while simultaneously outputting a voice signal received from said far end user over a loudspeaker of said speakerphone, comprising:

establishing a telephone call;

initiating a transmit function of a speakerphone generating a microphone signal;

playing back a voice message pre-recorded on said speakerphone generating a playback message signal;

combining said microphone signal with said playback message signal before performing hybrid echo cancellation and after performing automatic gain control; and

transmitting said combined microphone signal and playback signal to a far end party over said telephone line while said far end party simultaneously speaks through said loudspeaker of said speakerphone.

11. (previously presented) The method of transmitting a microphone signal and a played back pre-recorded voice signal to a far end party over a telephone line using a speakerphone while simultaneously outputting a voice signal received from said far end user over a loudspeaker of said speakerphone according to claim 10, further comprising:

adjusting a gain of said microphone signal.

12. (previously presented) The method of transmitting a microphone signal and a played back pre-recorded voice signal to a far end party over a telephone line using a speakerphone while simultaneously outputting a voice signal received from said far end user over a loudspeaker of said speakerphone according to claim 11, further comprising:

adjusting a gain of said playback message signal.

13. (previously presented) The method of transmitting a microphone signal and a played back pre-recorded voice signal to a far end party over a telephone line using a speakerphone while simultaneously outputting a voice signal received from said far end user over a loudspeaker of said speakerphone according to claim 11, wherein:

said adjusting similarly adjusts a gain of both said microphone signal and said playback message signal.

14. (previously presented) The method of transmitting a microphone signal and a played back pre-recorded voice signal to a far end party over a telephone line using a speakerphone while simultaneously outputting a voice signal received from said far end user over a loudspeaker of said speakerphone according to claim 11, wherein:

said combining occurs at a point in a transmit path after a gain of said microphone signal is adjusted.

15. (currently amended) Apparatus for transmitting a microphone signal and a played back user pre-recorded voice signal to a far end party over a telephone line using a speakerphone while simultaneously outputting a voice signal received from said far end user over a loudspeaker of said speakerphone, comprising:

means for establishing a telephone call;

means for initiating a transmit function of a speakerphone generating a microphone signal;

means for playing back a voice message pre-recorded on said speakerphone generating a playback message signal;

means for combining said microphone signal with said playback message signal before performing hybrid echo cancellation and after performing automatic gain control; and

means for transmitting said combined microphone signal and playback signal to a far end party over said telephone line while said far end party simultaneously speaks through said loudspeaker of said speakerphone.

16. (previously presented) The apparatus for transmitting a microphone signal and a played back pre-recorded voice signal to a far end party over a telephone line using a speakerphone while simultaneously outputting a voice signal received from said far end user over a loudspeaker of said speakerphone according to claim 15, further comprising:

means for adjusting a gain of said microphone signal.

17. (previously presented) The apparatus for transmitting a microphone signal and a played back pre-recorded voice signal to a far end party over a telephone line using a speakerphone while simultaneously outputting a voice signal received from said far end user over a loudspeaker of said speakerphone according to claim 15, further comprising:

means for adjusting a gain of said playback message signal.

18. (previously presented) The apparatus for transmitting a microphone signal and a played back pre-recorded voice signal to a far end party over a telephone line using a speakerphone while simultaneously outputting a voice signal received from said far end user over a loudspeaker of said speakerphone according to claim 15, wherein:

said means for adjusting similarly adjusts a gain of both said microphone signal and said playback message signal.

19. (previously presented) The apparatus for transmitting a microphone signal and a played back pre-recorded voice signal to a far end party over a telephone line using a speakerphone while simultaneously outputting a voice signal received from said far end user over a loudspeaker of said speakerphone according to claim 16, wherein:

said means for combining combines said microphone signal with said playback message signal at a point in a transmit path after said means for adjusting said microphone signal.